

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace paragraph [0036] at pages 5-6 with the following amended paragraph:

[0036] In addition to problems reading optical codes at random orientations, existing area imaging readers are limited in their Depth of Field (DOF), sometimes referred to as the working range. To accurately read objects marked with an optical code, the optical code must lie within a particular range of distance before the fixed focal lens distance. The particular range of distance before the fixed focal lens distance is known as the DOF. Thus, unless the entirety of the optical code lies within the shallow DOF of a conventional optical code reader, most of the optical code image produced on the image sensor array is out of focus and is not accurately read.